

of a state who ever visited the pre-war Palestine. Streets and squares in Israel are named after him as well as a kibbutz."

My legislation authorizes that a memorial sculpture to Tomas Masaryk be established in a park, just steps away from the location of the former Hotel Powhatten, on Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. where President Masaryk at one time resided and met with officials of the Woodrow Wilson Administration. It is a fitting site to remember this champion of democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues that this bill will not cost the taxpayer nor the U.S. government any monies but, rather, all expenses for the memorial will be borne by the American Friends of the Czech Republic.

I want to express my appreciation to Milton Cerny, President of the American Friends of the Czech Republic, his distinguished Directors, Advisors and Sponsoring Organization for the support of this legislation. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill, and pass the legislation during this session of Congress. Please join with me in paying tribute and homage to Tomas Masaryk, an outstanding champion of democracy.

A BILL To authorize the American Friends of the Czech Republic to establish a memorial to honor Tomas G. Masaryk in the District of Columbia.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH MEMORIAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The American Friends of the Czech Republic is authorized to establish a memorial to honor Tomas G. Masaryk on the Federal land in the District of Columbia described in subsection (b).

(b) LOCATION OF MEMORIAL.—The Federal land referred to in subsection (a) is the triangle of land in the District of Columbia that is bordered by 19th Street, NW., H Street, NW., and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., and designated as plot number 30 in area II on the map numbered 869/86501 and dated May 1, 1986, and which is located across H Street, NW., from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

(c) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.—The establishment of the memorial shall be in accordance with the Commemorative Works Act (40 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.).

(d) LIMITATION ON PAYMENT OF EXPENSE.—The United States Government shall not pay any expense for the establishment of the memorial.

TRIBUTE TO SHELLY LIVINGSTON

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2001

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, Today I bring attention to a valuable member of my International Relations Committee staff, Shelly Livingston, who is retiring tomorrow. Shelly has worked on the Committee for over 25 years, serving under six chairmen. When Shelly started with the Committee in 1974, Thomas "Doc" Morgan was Chairman. Clem Zablocki, Dante Fascell, Lee Hamilton, and BEN GILMAN were fortunate to have Shelly work for them. In her capacity as our fiscal and budget administrator, she has been invaluable in her knowl-

edge of the House rules, and the complexities of everything from personnel procedures and health care options to payroll and travel vouchers.

Actually, Shelly started her career here on Capitol Hill right out of college in 1973 working as a Capitol tour guide—one of the "red coats" as she likes to refer to her former position.

She has served as treasurer for the U.S.-Mexico Interparliamentary Group for over 20 years, and many members know her from having traveled with her.

Without Shelly's hard work and dedication, we would not have our state-of-the-art audio visual main committee hearing room. Shelly spent many long hours ensuring that this major renovation project ran smoothly.

Shelly has been indispensable in putting together the bi-annual committee budget since 1980. She has a keen mind for numbers, and has been able to work in a bipartisan manner with all members and staff. Her expertise and institutional memory will be missed.

Shelly is a die-hard Texan, who is going to retire tomorrow and spend the next couple of years travelling around the world. We thank her for her service and dedication to this institution, and I know I speak for many on both sides of the aisle when I say we will miss her witty humor and loyal friendship.

We wish her well, and know that with her great love for the arts, she will be doing interesting work in the future.

CELEBRATING GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2001

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I am I am honored to pay tribute once again to the citizens of Greece on the occasion of their 180th anniversary of independence on Sunday, March 25th. Coincidentally, March 25th also marks the important religious holiday of the Feast of the Annunciation celebrated by most Greek-Americans. The history and culture of people of Greek heritage has impacted the lives of countless people throughout the world, and it is important that we recognize their contributions to mankind and the principles of democracy.

After suffering more than 400 years of oppression under the Ottoman Empire, the people of Greece commenced a revolt on March 25th 1821. Many dedicated, patriotic Greeks lost their lives in the struggle which lasted over 7 years. Ultimately, the freedom the Greeks fought so hard for was courageously achieved, and the Hellenic Republic, commonly known as Greece, was born.

Historically, Greece has been a dedicated United States ally. A fierce supporter during World War II, Greek soldiers fought beside Americans to preserve democracy and independence. For almost half a century, Greece has stood beside the United States as an active and important member to NATO. It has consistently proved to be a valuable player in preserving security in the Mediterranean.

Greece has influenced our society in many ways. Greece is the birthplace of democracy, the foundation of American principles. No

doubt, without Greece's influence, the United States would be a completely different country today.

I am all too familiar with the positive contributions that are continually being made by Greek-Americans around the country. I am particularly proud of the fact that nearly 7,000 people in the Eighth Congressional District of Massachusetts are of Greek descent. Throughout the neighborhoods in Boston, Waretown, Cambridge, Chelsea, Belmont, and my hometown of Somerville, Greek-Americans are one of the most active groups in politics and community service. The Hellenic Cultural Center, the Greek Orthodox Church and other Greek-American organizations in the district are working to improve education, healthcare, and the environment.

As the Greeks celebrate their day of independence, I hope all Americans will take a moment to reflect on the valuable contributions that both Greeks and Greek-Americans have bestowed on our own country. This is the least we can do for a people who gave us the democratic concept of civilization and have continued to impact our communities and daily lives.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO EXTEND AND IMPROVE THE NATIONAL WRITING PROJECT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 22, 2001

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join my colleagues Mr. WICKER, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. CALAHAN, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. KINGSTON in introducing legislation to extend and improve the National Writing Project.

The knowledge and skill of a child's teacher is the single most important factor in the quality of his or her education. The National Writing Project is a nationwide program that works to improve students' writing abilities by improving the teaching of writing in the nation's schools.

The National Writing Project serves a remarkable number of teachers and students on an exceptionally small budget.

Last year, the National Writing Project trained 212,724 teachers and administrators nationwide through 167 writing project sites in 49 states, Washington, DC and Puerto Rico. It has served over two million teachers and administrators over the last 25 years.

For every federal dollar it receives, the National Writing Project raises about \$7.00 in matching grants. This makes the National Writing Project one of the most cost-effective educational programs in the country.

Furthermore, a national staff of only two people administers the National Writing Project. The use of limited federal funds to leverage large private investments is the most efficient way to use the budgeted funds available for the greatest possible return.

The National Writing Project works. For example, in Chicago, students of National Writing Project teachers have shown significantly higher gains on the Illinois Goals Assessment Program writing tests when compared to student performance citywide. In an urban Sacramento, California high school, student performance on local writing assessments rose